

OPINION 983

AGROTIPHILA GROTE, 1875 (INSECTA, LEPIDOPTERA):
DESIGNATION OF A TYPE-SPECIES UNDER THE PLENARY POWERS

RULING.—(1) Under the plenary powers all designations of type-species for the nominal genus *Agrotiphila* Grote, 1875, made prior to the present Ruling are hereby set aside, and the nominal species *Agrotiphila colorado* Smith, 1891, is hereby designated to be the type of that genus.

(2) The following generic names are hereby placed on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology with the Name Numbers specified:

(a) *Agrotiphila* Grote, 1875 (gender: feminine), type-species, by designation under the plenary powers in (1) above, *Agrotiphila colorado* Smith, 1891 (Name No. 1961);

(b) *Orosagrotis* Hampson, 1903 (gender: feminine), type-species, by original designation, *Agrotis montana* Morrison, 1875 (Name No. 1962);

(3) The following specific names are hereby placed on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology with the Name Numbers specified:

(a) *colorado* Smith, 1891, as published in the binomen *Agrotiphila colorado* (type-species of *Agrotiphila* Grote, 1875) (Name No. 2478);

(b) *montana* Morrison, 1875, as published in the binomen *Agrotis montana* (type-species of *Orosagrotis* Hampson, 1903) (Name No. 2479).

HISTORY OF THE CASE (Z.N.(S.) 1876)

The present application was submitted to the office of the Commission by Dr. F. Hardwick and the late Dr. J. McDunnough in January 1969. The application was sent to the printer on 15 February 1969 and was published on 8 August 1969 in *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* **26** : 97–98. Public Notice of the possible use of the plenary powers in the present case was given in the same part of the *Bulletin* as well as to the other prescribed serial publications (Constitution Art. 12b; *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* **21** : 184) and to eight entomological serials.

The proposals were supported by Dr. E. Berio. In answer to a request by Commissioner H. Lemche for information on usage Dr. Hardwick wrote:

“As a result of the fact that the type series of the type-species of *Agrotiphila* represented two species, the genus has been used in two senses. In most cases it has been used as a senior synonym of *Agrotimorpha* Barnes and Benjamin, in a few cases as a senior synonym of *Orosagrotis* Hampson.

“It has been used in the sense of *Agrotimorpha* (as obviously intended by Grote) by:

1. Hampson, 1903, Catalogue of the Lepidoptera Phalaena in the British Museum, Vol. 4 : 131
2. Draudt in Seitz, 1924, Gross-schmetterlinge der Erde, Vol. 7 : 33
3. Barnes and McDunnough, 1917, Check List of the Lepidoptera of Boreal America, p. 40

4. Hardwick, 1970, The genus *Euxoa* in North America, *Mem. ent. Soc. Canad.* 67 : 1-177.

"It has been used in the sense of *Orosagrotis* only in Barnes and Benjamin's original description of *Agrotimorpha* (1929, *Bull. Brooklyn ent. Soc.* 24 : 164-186) and in McDunnough's 1938 Check list of the Lepidoptera of Canada and the United States. The latter usage was rescinded by McDunnough's subsequent synonymizing of *Agrotimorpha* to *Agrotiphila* (1947, *Canad. Ent.* 79 : 38-39)".

DECISION OF THE COMMISSION

On 25 August 1971 the Members of the Commission were invited to vote under the Three-Month Rule on Voting Paper (71)19 either for or against the proposals set out in *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* 26 : 98. At the close of the prescribed voting period on 25 November 1971 the state of the voting was as follows:

Affirmative votes—fifteen (15), received in the following order: Holthuis, Munroe, Mayr, Bonnet, Lemche, Simpson, Eisenmann, Jaczewski, Melville, Tortonese, Sabrosky, Binder, Ride, Forest, Kraus.

Negative votes—none (0).

On Leave of Absence—one (1): Vokes.

Voting Papers not returned—two (2): Alvarado, Starobogatov.

Commissioner Brinck returned a late affirmative vote.

ORIGINAL REFERENCES

The following are the original references for names placed on Official Lists by the Ruling given in the present Opinion:

Agrotiphila Grote, 1875, *Ann. Lyc. nat. Hist. N.Y.* 11 : 108

colorado, *Agrotiphila*, Smith, 1891, *Trans. Amer. ent. Soc.* 18 : 133-135

montana, *Agrotis*, Morrison, 1875, *Ann. Lyc. nat. Hist. N.Y.* 11 : 95

Orosagrotis Hampson, 1903, *Cat. Lep. Phal. Brit. Mus.* 4 : 133

CERTIFICATE

I certify that the votes cast on Voting Paper (71)19 were cast as set out above, that the proposal contained in that Voting Paper has been duly adopted under the plenary powers, and that the decision so taken, being the decision of the International Commission, is truly recorded in the present Opinion No. 983.

R. V. MELVILLE
Secretary

International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature

London

20 March 1972